

## Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

Steve Beshear, Governor

Leonard K. Peters, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Commonwealth Cleanup Week March 21-28 Promotes personal responsibility for clean surroundings

**Frankfort, Ky.** (March 16, 2015) – It's time to pull your work boots and gloves out of winter storage and participate in this year's Commonwealth Cleanup Week, March 21-28.

Volunteers from across Kentucky will fill trash bags and pick up old tires during this 17<sup>th</sup> annual event.

The weeklong initiative is promoted by the Energy and Environment Cabinet (EEC) and kicks off the Great American Cleanup, which spans from March through May. Its purpose is to provide Kentucky communities with an opportunity to "spring clean," recycle and promote personal responsibility across the Commonwealth.

EEC Secretary Len Peters said Commonwealth Cleanup Week presents a great opportunity for Kentuckians to make a difference in their communities. "It is exciting to see the number of Kentuckians who participate in this event each year," he said. "Thousands of people give back to their communities by picking up litter and trash from our roadways, valleys and streams, and recycling where possible."

During the 2014 cleanup week, more than 20,000 Kentuckians picked up 108,945 bags of trash and over 1,000 tires along thousands of miles of roadway. In addition, these same volunteers cleaned eight illegal dumps.

Nonprofit groups that register with their county solid waste coordinator and complete a Commonwealth Cleanup Week cleanup are eligible to win one of six \$100 cash prizes in a random drawing to be held in May.

Visit the DWM's website at <a href="http://waste.ky.gov/RLA/Pages/CCW.aspx">http://waste.ky.gov/RLA/Pages/CCW.aspx</a> for scheduled events and a listing of county solid waste coordinators in Kentucky.